

## City of Linden

Union County, New Jersey Department of Parks and Recreation 605 S. Wood Avenue Linden, New Jersey 07036

Ralph Dunhamn Director Phone: 908-474-8600 Fax: 908-474-0864

June 17, 2020

To the Linden Community:

It is with a heavy heart that we inform you that at last night's City Council Meeting, it was announced that the 2020 Summer Day Camp/Playground Program will be cancelled. We had every intent to open this summer. We waited to receive the Governor's Office Youth Summer Camp Standards. Upon review of the standards, which were released last week, we determined that it would have been extremely difficult to comply and provide a safe environment for our youth, families, staff, and community at-large.

Knowing that our youth have not attended school since mid-March, we were aware of the importance of the program in addressing their social and emotional needs. We were also aware that this program was vital to provide childcare for working families. Please accept our sincerest apologies for any inconvenience that this may have caused any families that relied on us for childcare and for our youth that were highly anticipating another summer with their favorite counselors. With this being said, we are planning a virtual summer program. Details will be forthcoming.

For those families that registered for the Summer Day Camp Program, an email will be sent from the Department of Parks and Recreation with instructions for receiving a full refund.

Again, we are sorry that an in-person program will not occur for Summer 2020, and we will do everything that we can to come back stronger than ever for Summer 2021. As always, we thank you for trusting us with your children.

If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact us.

Sincerely, Ralph Dunhamn Director of Parks and Recreation